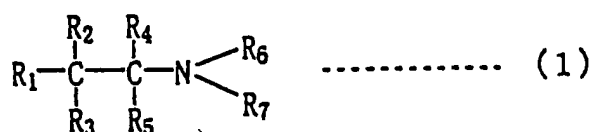


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Previously presented)

A skin conditioner containing one kind or two or more kinds of a compound represented by the following general formula (1):



(wherein, R₁ represents a hydroxyl group, lower alkoxy group that may optionally have a substitution group, phosphoryloxy group, aryl group, amino group, sulfonic acid group, phosphatidyloxy group, lower alkyl group substituted with a hydroxyl group or amino group or lower alkyl group substituted with a guanidino group;

R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ respectively and independently represent a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl group that may optionally be substituted with a hydroxyl group, aryl group that may optionally be substituted with a hydroxyl group, carboxyl group, or R₄ and R₅ represent groups, together with an adjacent carbon atom, form a carbonyl group;

R₆ and R₇ respectively and independently represent a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl group that may optionally be substituted with a hydroxyl group, lower alkylcarbonyl group, aryl group, aralkyl group, or R₆ and R₇ represent alkylene groups, which may optionally have a substitution group, that together form a five-member ring with an adjacent hydrogen atom; and, nitrogen atoms in the formula may be in a quaternary form with a lower alkyl group).

2-22 (Cancelled)